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MR. MCCrackEN: I'm Ralph McCracken.

17 M-C-C-R-A-C-K-E-N.

18 I live in Amargosa Valley, approximately 12  
19 miles from Yucca Mountain. I raise pistachios and  
20 alfalfa horses with my wife. It's curious that  
21 Congress gave the DOE a set of criteria to evaluate the  
22 mountain against, and some of the disclaimers or some  
23 of the disqualifying characteristics would be volcanic  
24 activity. Well, you have to be a blind man not to look  
25 around in the area there and see the cinder cones that

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1 are coming up through the valley floor. You have a  
2 cinder cone mine just a few miles down the road from  
3 it. Go down to the entrance to Death Valley and there  
4 is another very obvious cinder cone there. You go up  
5 towards Beatty and you look off to the west, another  
6 cinder cone.

7 The water temperature in the wells in  
8 Amargosa Valley is very common, 70 degrees. Serious  
9 warmth there. Another indicator of volcanic activity.  
10 All right. Enough on that part.

11 Seismic activity. Yes.. What was it, about  
12 three or four years ago, we had a pretty good one.  
13 Shook several of our mobile homes in the valley pretty  
14 good and some of them had to be releveled and reset on  
15 their stands. Obviously, we are not an area that's  
16 immune from seismic activity. And I'm talking to you  
17 about things that are within 25 miles of Yucca  
18 Mountain. When they bored their test tunnel through

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19 Yucca Mountain, it rained after that and the workers in  
20 that tunnel found themselves being dripped upon. It's  
21 a leaky mountain. It's not impervious to the flow of  
22 water.

23 The DOE has spent a lot of time and money to  
24 propose, do rules about Yucca Mountain, rules that  
25 would seemingly fit the mountain. I don't recall

0076

1 anywhere in the Congressional activity having asked DOE  
2 to do that. They were asked to evaluate the mountain  
3 against a set of criteria. I challenge Secretary  
4 Abraham to pick up the reins on DOE, to pick up the  
5 reins on a runaway DOE, to wade through the DOE  
6 documents that have been created and simply report to  
7 the President after he independently evaluates this  
8 data, comparing it to the original criteria that  
9 Congress asked the DOE to evaluate this based on and  
10 simply report that this site does not meet the criteria  
11 set up by Congress for suitability.

12 The best or the most suitable of anything  
13 comes from a comparison. We have no other sites that  
14 have been evaluated, so we can't say this is the best.  
15 We could say suitable or unsuitable against a set of  
16 criteria, but you can't say this is the best.

17 Secretary Abraham, we want you to remember that, that  
18 you can see Yucca Mountain is not suitable, regardless  
19 of how much money has been spent to characterize the  
20 mountain after the disqualifying characteristics have  
21 been identified.

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22 Changing topics again -- the site suitability  
23 document on disk was received at my house on August  
24 24th -- pardon me -- it was mailed on the 24th,  
25 received on the 28th. There are 468 pages in there and  
0077

1 it's a challenge for even an English major in college  
2 to process that many changes in this little time, just  
3 to read it rather than go for total comprehension of  
4 what you're reading, just to go through it physically  
5 in that amount of pages in that little time.

6 In conclusion, I wanted to come out of the  
7 site suitability mailing and the size of it is that  
8 these hearings are just not timely, just not timely.  
9 The draft EIS statement, when it came out, it came out  
10 with a summary pamphlet and I feel that that document,  
11 the summary, was worked on by somebody who was  
12 well-skilled in the art of spin doctoring. My concern  
13 there is that a lot of people will have read that  
14 document, the summary, and say, yeah, okay, when the  
15 final one comes out, I pretty much know what's there  
16 already, they're going to dot some Is and cross some  
17 Ts. But the impression that's created is some of these  
18 routes are pretty good. Look, there are no towns here.

19 But if you know the area, several of those  
20 maps -- the town of Pahrump, which is plain left out,  
21 not there, not on the map. And, of course, it looks  
22 like a great route because it doesn't go through a town  
23 of approximately 20,000 people. The people that read  
24 this stuff, I really want them to be alerted to the

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25 fact that that probably happened to that document, it

0078

1 could have been done to this document.

2 My first piece of evidence that it's been

3 done to this document is in a preliminary quick cursory

4 go-through on the site suitability is, it says Amargosa

5 Valley, populated by 900 people. Well, that's major --

6 it's incorrect. Our last census puts that town at

7 1,250 people. That's not very old information. It's

8 not hard to come by. It's not hard to verify your

9 numbers in terms of the population of that valley.

10 It's not 900; it's 1,250. And when there is something

11 that's that simply corrected, I hate to think about

12 what else I could find in there, let alone somebody who

13 really understands site suitability when they're

14 looking at it, could find what's wrong. The people,

15 the scientists on both sides, need more time to

16 evaluate this thing and make comments on it.

17 Thank you for now. That's all I got to say.